## What is Claimed is:

## A data compression system comprising:

a level management device that identifies one or more portions of data to be selectively compressed; and

a data compression module that compresses the one or more portions of data.

- The system of claim 1, further comprising a root module that updates portions of a document tree with pointers to the one or more portions of data.
- 3. The system of claim 2, wherein the document tree comprises a hierarchical structure of a document
- The system of claim 1, further comprising an index module that indexes the one or more portions of compressed data.
- The system of claim 1, wherein the one or more portions of compressed data can be selectively decompressed.
- The system of claim 1, wherein when the one or more portions of compressed data are selectively decompressed, one or more portions of other data remain compressed.
- The system of claim 1, wherein the data compression system allows dynamic access to and updating of a content, a structure and a style of a document.
- The system of claim 1, wherein the data compression scheme is based on a document object model for at least one of XML and HTML.
- 9. The system of claim 1, wherein a document comprises the one or more portions of data, an uncompressed document tree prefix, one or more compressed sub-tree fragments and an uncompressed fragment index.
- The system of claim 1, wherein the level management device reads at least a
  portion of a hierarchically structured document.
  - 11. A data decompression system comprising:

- a level management device that identifies one or more portions of data to be selectively decompressed; and
- a data decompression module that decompresses the one or more portions of data
- 12. The system of claim 11, further comprising a root module that updates portions of a document tree with pointers to the one or more portions of data.
- The system of claim 12, wherein the document tree comprises a hierarchical structure of a document.
- The system of claim 11, further comprising an index module that indexes the one or more portions of data.
- The system of claim 11, wherein one or more portions of compressed data can be selectively decompressed.
- 16. The system of claim 11, wherein when the one or more portions of compressed data are selectively decompressed, one or more portions of other data remain compressed.
- 17. The system of claim 11, wherein the data decompression system allows dynamic access to and updating of a content, a structure and a style of a document.
- 18. The system of claim 11, wherein the data decompression scheme is based on a document object model for at least one of XML and HTML.
- 19. The system of claim 11, wherein a document comprises the one or more portions of data, an uncompressed document tree prefix, one or more compressed sub-tree fragments and an uncompressed fragment index.
- 20. The system of claim 11, wherein the level management device reads at least a portion of a hierarchically structured document.
  - 21. A data compression method comprising:

identifying one or more portions of data to be selectively compressed; and compressing the one or more portions of data.

- The method of claim 21, further comprising updating portions of a document tree with pointers to the one or more portions of data.
- The method of claim 22, wherein the document tree comprises a hierarchical structure of a document
- The method of claim 21, further comprising indexing the one or more portions of compressed data.
- The method of claim 21, wherein the one or more portions of compressed data can be selectively decompressed.
- 26. The method of claim 21, wherein when the one or more portions of compressed data are selectively decompressed, one or more portions of other data remain compressed.
- The method of claim 21, further comprising allowing dynamic access to and updating of a content, a structure and a style of a document.
- 28. The method of claim 21, wherein the data compression scheme is based on a document object model for at least one of XML and HTML.
- 29. The method of claim 21, wherein a document comprises the one or more portions of data, an uncompressed document tree prefix, one or more compressed sub-tree fragments and an uncompressed fragment index.
- The method of claim 21, further comprising reading at least a portion of a hierarchically structured document.
  - 31. A data decompression method comprising: identifying one or more portions of data to be selectively decompressed; and decompressing the one or more portions of data.
- 32. The method of claim 31, further comprising updating portions of a document tree with pointers to the one or more portions of data.
- 33. The method of claim 32, wherein the document tree comprises a hierarchical structure of a document.

- The method of claim 31, further comprising indexing the one or more portions of data.
- 35. The method of claim 31, wherein one or more portions of compressed data can be selectively decompressed.
- 36. The method of claim 31, wherein when the one or more portions of compressed data are selectively decompressed, one or more portions of other data remain compressed.
- 37. The method of claim 31, further comprising allowing dynamic access to and updating of a content, a structure and a style of a document.
- 38. The method of claim 31, wherein the data decompression is based on a document object model for at least one of XML and HTML.
- 39. The method of claim 31, wherein a document comprises the one or more portions of data, an uncompressed document tree prefix, one or more compressed sub-tree fragments and an uncompressed fragment index.
- 40. The method of claim 31, further comprising reading at least a portion of a hierarchically structured document.
- 41. An information storage media comprising information that compresses data comprising:

information that identifies one or more portions of data to be selectively compressed; and

information that compresses the one or more portions of data.

42. An information storage media comprising information that decompresses data comprising:

information that identifies one or more portions of data to be selectively decompressed; and

information that decompresses the one or more portions of data.